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UNCLE SAM'S FOREST RANGERS 544

PROGRAM TITLE

ADVERTISER

AGENCY

WRITER

THURSDAY JULY 22, 1943

DAY & DATE

11:30-12:00 NOON CWT. BLUE

TIME

PRODUCTION NOTESCHARACTERS

JIM.....	CAST HARVEY HAYS
JERRY.....	JOHN LARKIN
FRANK.....	JIM GOSS
BILL.....	LEO CURLEY
MONTY.....	PHIL LORD

SOUNDREMARKS

MASTER Attached as broadcast:

This copy represents as accurately as possible the program. All alterations made in dramatic and/or musical content are contained herein.

Orchestra Leader

Production Director

Announcer

Agency Producer or Announcer

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1. ANNCR: Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers!

2. MUSIC: THEME

3. ANNCR: One of the toughest jobs the Forest Ranger has on his

4. hands today is looking after the grazing of domestic

5. livestock on the National Forest ranges. He is resolved

6. that what happened during the last war must not happen

7. again. There was a meat shortage then as now, and the

8. pressures to put more and more animals on the over-

9. burdened range were allowed to prevail with the result

10. that many grazing areas were so seriously damaged that

11. even today, twenty-five years later, some of those range

12. lands are still in such poor condition that they are

13. contributing little toward this war. So, even though he

14. is beginning to feel the same pressure all over again, the

15. Forest Ranger carries on with determination and with

16. the strong conviction that protecting the range lands

17. against overgrazing and misuse is in the public and

18. national interest....Now let's see what's happening

19. on the Pine Cone National Forest. At the Ranger

20. Station we find Ranger Jim Robbins gathering up his

21. equipment for his day's work in the forest, while his

22. assistant, Jerry Quick, goes through the morning mail.

23. Here they are:

24. FADE IN SOUND OF ENVELOPE BEING TORN OPEN, PAPER RUSTLING

25.

JIM: (FADE IN SINGING, OFF) "Home, Home on the Range, where the deer
and the"

JERRY: Holy smokes! Here's another one, Jim. This makes four
so far and there's still a pile of mail I haven't
opened yet.

JIM: (BREAKS OFF HIS SONG, COMING ON) Makes four what?
What're you talking about, Jerry.

JERRY: It's a conspiracy, that's what. Four letters so far
from four different grazing permittees and -- get
this, Jim-- they all make the same identical request, that
you let 'em keep all their stock on the range past the
end of the regular grazing period.

JIM: That's no conspiracy, that's just plumb foolishness.
We couldn't even think twice about doing anything like
that, Jerry. The range just won't stand up under it,
Jerry. And besides.....

JERRY: Just what I was thinking. There's cooperation for you.
We did fix it so they could turn their stock in on the
range a couple weeks early this year, but now they're
hollerin' to stay on later than ever.

JIM: Forget it, Jerry. If the range hadn't been ready early,
we couldn't have let 'em put their cattle on it. But
it was, and since the cattlemen were short of feed,
everything worked out okay....Staying on after the
regular season is over, though, that's different.

(MORE)

1. JIM:(CON'T) They oughta know the range won't stand it....Say, who
2. are those letters from?
3. JERRY: Let's see...(PAPER RUSTLING) Steve Jones and Bob Haskell
4. and Bill Simpson, and this one's from Monty Telford
5. and....wait, here're a couple more...(PAPER RUSTLING)
6. Yep, same thing from Art Campbell and King Miller.
7. JIM: H-m-m. All members of the Big Bend Cattle Growers'
8. Association. That's the outfit Frank Thompson's
9. president of, Jerry.
10. JERRY: Well, he hasn't written, at least.
11. JIM: I don't think he will. You know, Jerry, this is the
12. first time I can remember that any members of the Big
13. Bend outfit have tried to deal with us individually
14. on a problem that concerns all of 'em..
15. JERRY: What do you make of it, Jim?
16. JIM: Looks to me like there's a split somewhere and Frank
17. Thompson doesn't see eye to eye with the men who wrote
18. those letters. I reckon I'd better see Frank right away;
19. maybe there's more to all this than we know yet and....
20. (SOUND OF FOOTSTEPS ON PORCH, OFF) who's that coming,
21. Jerry...
22. JERRY: It's the big boy himself, Jim. It's Frank Thompson...
23. JIM: Swell. Just in time. (CALLING) Come right on in, Frank.
24. SCREEN DOOR OPENS AND CLOSES

FRANK: (COMING ON) Howdy, Jim...How are you, Jerry?

JERRY: Just fine, sir.

JIM: We were just talkin' about you, Frank. Sure glad you popped in.

FRANK: Jim, did you get any letters from some of the Big Bone boys this morning?

JIM: Yep.

FRANK: They're asking to stay on the range later this year, is it?

JIM: That's it, all right, Frank, but I'm afraid we can't do anything like that.

JERRY: What gets me is that they've still got a couple of months more to run their cattle on the forest. How come they're getting all het up about it this early?

FRANK: Well, for one thing they know it's goin' to take some doing to make you see things their way so they've started their campaign early. For another thing, I reckon I'm the maverick that started this whole thing rolling.

JIM: You? What d'ya mean, Frank? You oughta know the range won't stand any post-season use. And besides, if all of you market early like you should, there won't be any need to.....

(OVER)

FRANK: Whooa there, Jim. I'm on your side in this business. Here's what happened. Last meeting we had I spoke up, going strong on marketing our stock early this fall. Well, some of the members set up a howl, about marketing their stock early, so they've started this drive to keep their cattle on the range. I 'spect they'll be putting some pressure on you.

JERRY: But they won't be helping their stock any and they would damage the land a lot if they had their way.....I don't get it.

JIM: The grass is pretty good so far this year, I reckon they keep their stock on the range, the more they'll gain in weight. I'd just like to talk to those men, face to face...

FRANK: You can.

JIM: Huh?

FRANK: Yep. We're holding a meeting this afternoon. Three o'clock at my ranch. There'll be a big turn-out and I'm inviting you and Jerry to be there.

JIM: We'll be there all right, Frank.

FRANK: If I were you I'd bring along everything you can find to prove your case, Jim. I'm on your side but you're goin' to be facing a lot of opposition, with Bill Simpson and Monty Telford leading it.

JIM: (FADING) We'll be there.....

PAUSE

FADE IN CROWD NOISE, SUSTAIN

JIM: (SOTTO) Everything ready, Jerry?

JERRY: (SOTTO) All set, Jim. I'll go on back of the barn and handle things there. I sure hope your idea works.

JIM: (SOTTO) Yeah. I'll let you know when to bring the... the evidence out here. Get going....Frank's about to open the meeting.

SOUND OF POUNDING ~ (FIST ON TABLE), NOISE DOWN AND OUT

FRANK: All right, men...Sorry there's not enough seats for everybody, but I reckon you won't mind sittin' on the grass....We'll dispense with the reading of the minutes of the last meeting so you can get on with the business of this special meeting....All right Bill Simpson, your hand's up...go ahead.

BILL: Thank you, Frank, Well, I guess you all know why we're here today. We got a little question to settle. I'm kinda glad to see Jim Robbins among those present -- these Forest Rangers sure get around, don't they?

CROWD LAUGHS, POUNDING

FRANK: I invited Jim Robbins to this meeting. The Big Bend Cattle Growers' Association doesn't have anything to hide so far as I know....Stick to the question, Bill.

BILL: Okay. Well, like I started to say, I'm kinda glad the Ranger's here cause we can put this question up to him and maybe hope to get a straight answer out here in public which'll be better than havin' him answer a lot of letters.

1 JIM: I don't mind answering letters, Bill. But go on, I'll
2 do the best I can here today, out in public like you say.
3 BILL: Where's Monty Telford?
4 MONTY: Here I am, Bill.
5 BILL: You put the question, Monty. I don't want to give the
6 impression this is all my doin'.
7 MONTY: Okay, Bill. Well, Ranger, here's what we're up against.
8 We gotta lot of cattle grazing up there in the forest ri
9 now and, well, the way things look, we're gonna have a
10 lotta cattle when the grazing period ends. Now what some
11 of us are asking for is a kinda simple and sensible thing
12 to our way of thinking. It's this. We want you to tell
13 us we don't have to worry none about taking those cattle
14 of ours off the Pine Cone range until maybe late in
15 October. How about it, Ranger?
16 FRANK: Don't answer that just yet, Jim. There's a few things
17 I want to say, first.
18 CROWD NOISE
19 BILL: Don't dodge the issue, Frank. We know what you're going
20 to say. Let the Ranger talk.
21 CROWD NOISE, POUNDING, NOISE SUBSIDES
22 FRANK: I reckon I'm still president of this association. And
23 until you put me out of the office I'm gonna speak
24 up when I want to....(MURMUR) Men, listen to me.
25 If anybody's dodging the real issue here, it's follas like
Bill Simpson and Monty Telford and you other who feel the
way they do.

(MORE)

FRANK: (CON'T) (MURMUR) What we've got to settle today is not a question of how long the Ranger's goin' to let us stay on the range but whether or not we get together, all of us, and carry on an early marketing program. You know as well as I do that if we market our fat steers at their top weight we won't need any longer range season. And getting rid of a lot of the beef early would make it better for the breeding herd left on the range 'til the end of the season...(CROWD) All right, Bill, speak up.

BILL: You bet I will! Looks like we're right back where we were at last meeting. Everything you say, Frank, sounds mighty pretty but I for one don't intend to let any pretty speeches influence me in how I handle my cattle. (CROWD) We need more proof than you've given us so far that we oughta go in for early marketing this year.

CROWD, POUNDING

JIM: I'd like to say something if I may, Frank.

FRANK: Speak up, Jim.

JIM: Bill, I jist want to mention one thing. There's a patriotic angle to this story. Those fine lads of ours in the Armed forces, some of 'em sons of you men here, while they're in the business of fightin' the war we've got to back them up with food. I wasn't aimin' to bring the patriotic angle here but you can't overlook this fact.

(MORE)

1 JIM: (CON'T) If you market your cattle early like Frank
2 suggests you'll be helping to send out meat that's
3 urgently needed now, this year, not next year. And you'll
4 be helping the boys I was talkin' about as well as the
5 home folks. I don't have to tell you how meat counts
6 in this war....

7 (MURMUR)

8 MONTY: The Ranger's right, Bill. I've got a boy out there
9 somewheres. Maybe we oughta move our stock early.

10 BILL: Now, wait a minute, Monty. Let's forget that for a minute
11 huh? We know meat's needed and bad. But that's no
12 reason we shouldn't carry on our business in a sensible
13 way, is it? What the Ranger and Frank haven't given
14 us is proof, definite proof, aside from the patriotic
15 angle, that we won't be producing more meat if we have
16 a longer grazing season. (CROWD) All this talk of
17 selling at top weights and the like. What about that?

18 JIM: Well, Bill, maybe you don't know it but your stock will
19 hit their peak in weight in a coupla weeks or so. Some
20 are at it right now, and they'll actually start losing
21 weight if you leave 'em on the range too long. You
22 won't be producing any more meat if you keep your stock
23 on the range after they stop making weight gains. You'll
24 just be wasting grass. That's why us fellers in the
25 Forest Service are all out for early marketing of
livestock. It's not only to save the range from unnecessary
damage, which we're goin' to do, come drought or high water

(MORE)

1 JIM:(CON'T) but it's to help you fellas in your business, too,
2 that we manage the range up in the National Forest like
3 we do.
4 CROWD MURMUR
5 BILL: You got figures to prove all this you're saying, Jim?
6 Us cattlemen like to be shown, you know.
7 JIM: Yes sir, I've got figures and charts to prove what I've
8 been telling you, Bill..And I've got something better
9 than that, too..(CALLING) All right, Jerry. Bring in
10 that first one... ..
11 JERRY: (OFF) Coming right up, Jim...
12 SOUND OF SHUFFLING HOOFS COMING ON, CROWD NOISE UP, COMMENTS:
13 "SAY, IT'S A STEER," "YEAH AND A BEAUTY TOO'," APPLAUSE
14 JIM: All right, Jerry, hold him. . .
15 JERRY: I'll do my best, Jim. Hold there, fella!...
16 MONTY: Say, what have you been feedin' that animal, Jim?
17 That's sure a fine steer.
18 BILL: Yeah, about as finished and in bloom as any I've seen all
19 year. You take that animal there. I wouldn't hesitate
20 to send that baby to market right now. Where's he been,
21 Jim?
22 JIM: Up on the Pine Cone Range, Bill. I picked him out
23 'cause he represents in weight pretty much what most
24 animals are averaging up there on good grass like he's
25 been eating.

(MORE)

1 JIM:(CON'T) He's about grass fat now, you can see for yourself,
2 and he'll be ready for market first week in September,
3 sure....

4 MONTY: Turn him around, Jerry. Let's have a look at his frame

5 JIM: Save that for later. Get that other animal, will you, Frank

6 FRANK: Okay, Jim....

7 BILL: Say, ain't this animal here kinda special, in size and
8 all, Jim?

9 JIM: About average for the herd he's travelin' with, I'd say.
10 Here comes Frank....

11 SOUND OF HOOFTBEATS COMING ON, PLAINITIVE MOO, CROWD LAUGHS

12 MONTY: Say, that critter's no match for the other. He's kinda
13 poor specimen, he is.

14 BILL: Aw now, Jim, you ain't goin' to pull that old one on us,
15 are you?

16 About - here it is, laddez and gentleman, the very same
17 steer, before and after getting a belly-full of rich
18 range feed, up on the Pine Cone!

19 CROWD LAUGHS

20 JIM: No, not exactly, Bill. And yet if this animal had
21 gotten the same break the other one got he'd look more
22 like him. This one's been on poor range and right now,
23 I'd say, he's hit the down-grade as far as weight's
24 concerned.
25

1 FRANK: Yeah, and that's why I aim to market him soon. I can,
2 This week, maybe.

3 BILL: This your steer, Frank?

4 FRANK: Yep.

5 BILL: Golly, I'm sorry I didded about it.

6 FRANK: Forget it, Bill. I've got others like him, in a little
7 bunch I had to turn out on poor range because my leasing
8 allotment up on the Pine Cone couldn't accommodate
9 all my stock. Maybe you understand now why I'm for
10 Jim Robbins in this whole thing. I know about good
11 range and poor range, fellas. And I've learned how
12 stock, on good or poor range, can get to a certain
13 point and then quit in weight or go down.

14 BILL: Yeah, I see. Look, Monty, I reckon there must be more
15 to this early marketing business than we realized.
16 (CROWD MURMUR) I reckon I'm gonna look over my animals
17 real careful tomorrow and see how they're coming.

18 JIM: Just one more thing, Bill.

19 BILL: Yeh?

20 JIM: It looks to me, Bill, like early marketing is good
21 business, mighty good business from the money angle too.
22 Look, I've got right here a report of the monthly prices
23 of beef steers at the Chicago market for the ten-year
24 period 1930 to 1939. And listen to this...the highest
25 average price per hundredweight for the last six months
of every year was paid in September....

BILL: The highest price for the last six months of the year was paid in September, huh? Say, that's about when you figure to market your animals, isn't it, Frank, in early September?

FRANK: Yes, Bill, those that are up on the good forest range. I'm going to sell off the culls that are already grass-fat in that herd and most of my stock like this one before then though, to keep the meat moving.

BILL: Yeah, I see....Well, Jim, you can forget that question I put to you early in the meeting....about asking for more privileges on the range. We won't need 'em, far's I'm concerned. I'm with Frank, all the way. How about it, fellas? (CROWD APPROVES) And I might as well confess, Jim, you had me licked on this whole thing back there when Jerry brought in that fine fat steer. Gosh, if that ain't an argument for good range practice, I don't know what is....Say, turn that steer around, will you, Jerry? I'd like to know who the lucky critter is who owns that animal. Must be some one right here in this crowd....

JERRY: Yes sir, Mr. Simpson...Hi, got around there now... (SOUND OF SHUFFLING, HOOFEATS) There you are...Can you see the brand, now?

1 BILL: (SLOWLY) Triangle with a dot....Well, doggone, that's my
2 brand! Hey, that's my steer!

3 PLAINTIVE MOO AS CROWD LAUGHS AND FADES OUT

4 MUSICAL FINALE

5 ANNOUNCER: Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers comes to you as a network
6 presentation with the cooperation of the Forest Service,
7 United States Department of Agriculture.

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25 7-20-43 MMK

